

CHILDREN

SANG ON THEIR WAY TO DEATH
—TWENTY-ONE OF SUNDAY
SCHOOL PARTY KILLED
70 HURT IN WRECK
NEAR CHICAGO

SANG HYMNS BEFORE CRASH

Chicago, July 14.—Twenty-one members of the Sunday-school of Doremus Congregational church, thirty-first and Butler streets, went to death with joy in their hearts and a hymn on their lips last evening, when 70 persons, mostly children, members of the same Sunday-school, were mangled and mangled in a collision on the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railway, between Chicago Heights and Elmhurst, 25 miles from Chicago. Yesterday was the annual picnic of the Sunday-school and hundreds of children, with their parents and friends, had gone to the picnic grounds at Monmouth, Ill., for the day. The picnic was over and the train was on the return to Chicago when the accident occurred.

The children in the first coach of the train were singing as it passed Chicago Heights, 25 miles from Chicago. Two miles further on the sing-song was hushed in death for many and in grief of pain for 70 others.

The collision occurred between a picnic train from Chicago which was returning from Monmouth, Ill., and a freight train, into the rear end of which the excursion dished at high speed. The picnic train was coming north and the freight was on the south-bound track.

If there is any God he certainly must have a special spite against Sunday-school children and their teachers. In the troglodyte theater God burned up 600 people most children and some preachers that were with them. On the "General Bloom" God burnt to death and drowned 1021 people nearly all Sunday-school children and their teachers, and now, at Chicago, God has killed 20 Sunday-school children and wounded 70 more. And yet grown up fools and hypocrites teach children to worship that God.

FROM A SOCIALIST.

Lakeview, Okla., July 12, 1904.
Mr. Charles C. Moore:

I will take the liberty to write you a few lines as I would like for you to know a little about how I feel toward you. I am a regular reader of the Blade. You have not put my name on your subscription list but I am paying for it. A friend of mine was getting two copies. I was going to subscribe. He told me I could have one of his copies so I paid him for it, and expected to continue it in my name when the time was up, but since I read J. W. Sawyer's letter and your answer to it, and a similar one a few issues back from a lady, and the other fellows answer, I will have enough of it when my time is out if you keep up your vilification against Socialism. I am not a chronic Socialist. I don't endorse all their doctrines but I think most of it is all right.

I try to be a Liberal as near as I

can and investigate all sides of any subject and I don't think you do. I think you are a little crooked on your ideas.

I ordered Doug Pennel from you last winter and read it and liked it fine. I would like to have one of Dr. Wilson's books, but I am a poor devil and don't see how I am to spare the spindrift just now but think I will order one a little later on.

I am a farmer as you say you are, I am in a new country. I am living and trying to improve my place at the same time, so you see I have not many extra dollars to throw at the birds.

You can see I am not up on grammar and, as you will say, written in a very poor hand and bad form and with little sense to it, but I hope you will be wise enough to catch the idea.

I remain yours for justice.
A. J. BEALMEAR.

You are like a great many others, you manage to read the Blade without paying the Blade for it. Like a great many you were just going to pay for the Blade when you saw something that kept you from it. That is one of the commonest old gas that fellows write to newspapers. If you could not raise a dollar to pay Dr. Wilson, a Socialist, for his book, it is not probable that you would pay me for the Blade.

FORGERY

CHARGE PREFERRED AGAINST
MORRIS G. VANARSALL.

WAS LOCATED IN CINCINNATI

Recently Served Out Term in the Penitentiary.

(From Courier-Journal).
Lexington, Ky., July 15.—Detective Dennis Hays, of this city, left tonight for Cincinnati, to get Morris G. Vanarsall, of Harrodsburg, who is under arrest in the Queen City on the charge of forgery. Vanarsall is just out of the penitentiary, having been sent up from this city last April a year ago for securing money by false pretenses from ministers. The Rev. Edwin Muller, of this city, conducted the prosecution, although a number of Lexington ministers were victims of his scheme, which was to ask them for a small amount of money as a favor to his uncle, a prominent minister of Harrodsburg. Finally the Harrodsburg minister was appealed to and said he and the rest of the family of the young man had long since disowned him, and it would be a favor to them if he were prosecuted and sent to the penitentiary. Dr. Muller therefore undertook and secured his conviction. By good behavior he succeeded in cutting four months off his time. He had so soon been freed than he forged the name of Hon. Willard Mitchell, of Harrodsburg, to a check for a sum of money. While living off the generosity of the preachers in this city, Vanarsall married Carrie Huttel, a Louisville girl, the daughter of a photographer of the Falls city.

National Liberal Party will meet in St. Louis on October 15, 16 and 17th. From present indications the Na-

ECCLIASTICAL BOYCOTTERS

The self glorified preachers of Harrodsburg, Md., are congratulating themselves because a couple who desired to marry could not get married in Harrodsburg on account of the preachers banding together and refusing to do the marriage act where either party has been divorced. Under the law of Maryland the ministers have a monopoly of the marriage ceremony. They are, in effect, quasi officials of the State, and under oath and obligation to perform the marriage ceremony when called upon, provided the candidates are equalized by age and color. The State by giving divorce to certain persons makes them legally entitled to remarry and a refusal to act in the capacity of knot tier is apparently an expression of contempt of court and law, and if done by any one else would result in prosecution. The people or that portion of the people who think should refuse to contribute to such churches as sanction such dishonesty on the part of "supernaturalists." There are two sides to every question. To this one there is the honest side and the dishonest side. When a man who has a modicum of honor in his composition offers or agrees to perform a service to hold himself ready to perform one and then finds that he can not come up to the contract, he should give up his job, allow some one better fitted to take his place. To stand in the way of others and set the dog in the man's way may conform to ecclesiastical usage but falls short of every day decency. Most all divorces are granted to persons who have been joined by the regularly ordained ministers of Christ and if the spirit of Christ is too weak to sustain the beneficiary of that rite, the fault lies with religion and not with the people. Every divorce granted is an evidence of religious failure. The attempt to frustrate the failure, the attempt to derision will only make matters worse. The preachers are between the devil and the deep blue sea on the divorce question and they can not swim so the devil will get them. King George III undertook to interfere with the rights and privileges of our granddads and raised more hell than he could accommodate and the ministers of the United States of America will meet with a Tea Party who will dump the whole ecclesiastical machine with humber attacks overboard some fine day. If the preachers can openly defy the law, why can not others? They are going to dump that salt water will do you good. Marriage is a lawful regulation of a very natural function and that regulation should be as elastic as possible, in order to prevent illegal exercise of the act regulated. If a man should marry a score of wives one at a time and be legally separated from each, the law recognizes the legitimacy of each marriage and the people recognize the legitimacy of both wedlock and the offspring thereof. It is decent and orderly system and suits the participants. Some women are very particular concerning their husbands and the choice thereof. They try one and find that he does not measure up to the ideal and therefore become dissatisfied. And who can live in amity with a dissatisfied woman? They have the same trouble in selecting cooks and housemaids. Would any sane person expect to be happy with an unsuitable partner and pass the shifting of coals over in silence? The choice of a husband is a more important matter than the selection of a cook.

The continual treading on air and breathing the rarified air of spirituality unites the ministers of Christ for pronouncing judgment upon worldly people. The man with his head in the clouds and his mind set upon celestial matters, is too ethereal to monkey with mundane affairs. He knows that every inch of heaven's streets are paved with 24 karat gold and the dome is heavily plated with radium at \$1,000,000 per pound, but he does not know that he is a confirmed nuisance on earth. He knows that hell is pitched inside and outside with pitch, but he does not know that a pulpit is a green-goods counter, or if he does he plays ignorance. He pretends not to know the holy Bible is a "gold brick" of the first water.

St. Paul said that adultery on the part of the wife should be the only justification for a man in divorcing his wife. He does not say word band. Divorce was a one-sided game in Paul's time and was played to the limit. The good saint said: "He who marries does so, but he who does not marry does better." Did he mean to teach a form of race suicide?

Christ and Paul were straw men set up like Indian idols and made to say just what the priesthood wished them to say. They were moulded into ideal and very poor ones at that. There are evidences extent that either ever lived in the flesh. The "credible" witnesses adduced are also made of straw. All the confirmation of the Christ story comes "with confirmation

strong as holy writ" and no stronger. The fact that Josephus ignores Mr. Jesus Christ, shows that he did not exist or was of no change a person that Josephus did not think it worth while introducing him to the Greeks. If he ever heard of Christ's raising the dead and raising hell in general, he passed the matter over in silence. Josephus appears to have been a careful historian and would have delighted in introducing a Son of God to the Greeks if he had ever met with him. The preachers had better call off their baying pack, and the church will be empty soon.
JOHN F. CLARKE.
Arlington, Md.

ROME CONGRESS FUND

It is the desire that Dr. J. B. Wilson represent American Free thought at the World's Congress of Free thinkers to be held in Rome, Italy, next September. Dr. Wilson is president of the National Liberal Party and is eminently qualified to participate in the deliberations at the Congress. On his return from Rome the Doctor will write a book embracing his experience and proceedings of the Congress, and it is needless to speak of the Doctor's veracity and ability to write such a book.

The price of the book will be one dollar, and as the expense will be very heavy it is hoped that all who are able will subscribe for as many books as possible.

All money received is deposited in The Central Trust and Safe Deposit Company, of Cincinnati, and will be acknowledged through the Blade. Contributions and subscriptions (with and without money) will be received by the Secretary of the National Liberal Party, Cincinnati, O. MORRIS STILES, Atlas Bank Bldg., Cincinnati, O.

Condition of Fund.
Total subscribed\$733.00
Amount in bank 396.25
Sent to Blade 15.00

SCANDAL IN SOCIETY.

Grayville, Ill., Man Sues a Doctor for the Alienation of the Affection of His Wife.

Carmi, Ill., July 14.—Suit for \$50,000 has been filed here by John Brechner, Jr., of Grayville, Ill., against Dr. A. Glaze for the alienation of his wife's affections. Dr. Glaze and the Brechners are among the most prominent people at Grayville and have resided there for many years. Mrs. Brechner is 25 years old, pretty and handsome is the best society. She has a son 10 years old. Dr. Glaze, who is 50 years old, was the family physician of the Brechners for five years.

Dr. Glaze and Mrs. Brechner are prominent members of the First Cumberland Presbyterian church of Grayville. The case has been set down for trial during the October term of court.

GAVE THEIR JEWELS TO WASH AWAY SINS.

Women Removed Their Valuables and Surrendered Them to Evangelist at a Holiness Meeting.

Attleboro, Mass., July 11th.—Religious frenzy characterized the closing sessions of a holiness camp meeting at Hebronville Saturday. The afternoon and evening meetings were addressed by Edward A. Ferguson, an evangelist. He was so pained such a world picture of the sins of his auditors, of the terrible future which will be theirs if they do not give up their worldly ways, their gold and diamonds that his audience were taken literally by many present.

Women removed their watches and their rings, sobbing as they did so; crying that they were poor, miserable sinners, they placed them at the appointed place for receiving sufferings. A box for Attleboro manufacturer gave \$50. Women jumped and shouted, and so did men.

EPHRAIM PORTER DIES REFUSING MEDICAL ATTENTION.

(From Lexington Democrat)

Refusing to the last moment to take one drop of medicine, Ephraim Porter, aged 41, who lived at 22 Breckinridge street, died yesterday afternoon about 4:30 o'clock from intestinal tuberculosis. He is a member of a religious sect called the "Church of God," which teaches that the sick should be healed by faith and the laying on of hands.

Mr. Porter was a teamster who came to Lexington from Camargo, in Montgomery county, nine months ago, and he has been ill nearly every day since he and his family came to Lexington. He was advised by his neighbors when first taken ill to go to a physician and he treated, but he steadfastly refused to take their advice and continued to grow worse until he became bed-ridden.

His wife and family were urged to send for a physician but they being of the same religious faith as Mr. Porter steadfastly refused.

Mr. Porter became so ill two weeks ago that he lost his mind and has

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FARMING IN THE SOUTH.
The Passenger Department of the Illinois Central Railroad Company is issuing monthly circulars concerning fruit growing, vegetable gardening, stock raising, dairying, etc., in the States of Kentucky, West Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana. Every Farmer, or Homeseeker, who will forward his name and address to the undersigned, will be mailed free Circulars Nos. 1 to 11 inclusive, and others as they are published from month to month.

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F. W. HARLOW
DIVISION PASSENGER AGENT, LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

Summer at Hot Springs

For those who go to Hot Springs, Arkansas, for the benefit of health, the summer is really the best time. Here fortunate location, high up in the foothills of the Ozark mountains insures a cool and delightful climate, and physicians are united in the opinion that the waters are more beneficial during the summer season.

One Fare Plus \$2.00

For the Round Trip Throughout the Summer

WRITE FOR BOOKLETS

GEO. H. LEE, G. P. A., Little Rock, Ark.
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LIBERAL HEADQUARTERS

WHEN YOU ARE AT THE

WORLD'S FAIR

At St. Louis this year, be sure and stop with Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Wagener, 3111 North Newstead Ave.

You will find everything Neat, Clean, Home-like, and Welcome by Liberal Friends. Rooms, or Rooms and Board at very reasonable prices.

Mr. and Mrs. Wagener will take great pleasure in making you acquainted with other Liberals, who visit the Fair and stop with them, or in the vicinity.

You will find the editor and publisher of the Blue Grass Blade at Mr. Wagener's, if we are fortunate enough to visit the Fair.

DON'T FORGET THE ADDRESS, but take this paper with you. Write them for particulars.

W. C. WAGENER,
3111 North Newstead Ave.
ST. LOUIS, MO.

He, Allen, James W. Beebe, the twice convicted murderer of Mrs. Martha Martin said that Mr. Beebe in desiring to see the minister was to make confession of religion.

"Ever since I have been a prisoner, said he, I have been reading my Bible. I have read it from 10 to 10 through twice. I feel now as if I want to make my peace with God and am going to join the church. I am innocent of the crime I was charged with and I want to let the good people of Lexington know that I have hopes of heaven."—Lexington Leader.

When seen Friday at the jail by a Leader reporter and asked in regard to the letter he had written Rev. W.

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